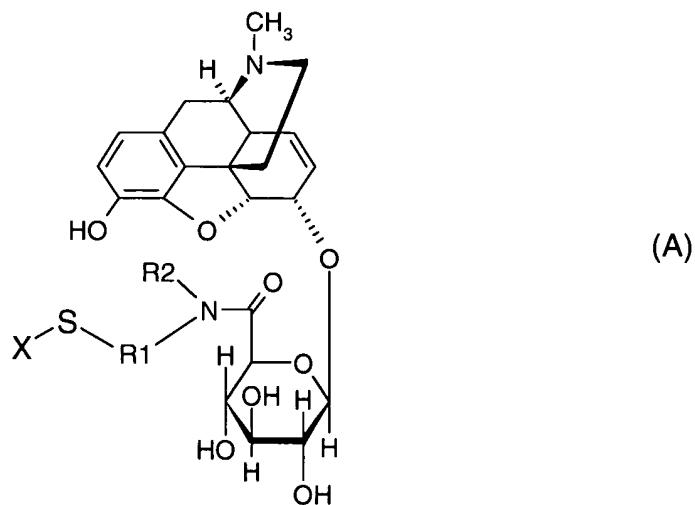


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) Compound of formula (A):



in which:

- all of ~~the above entity~~ formula (A), with the exception of the substituent X, is called M6G-N(R<sub>2</sub>)R<sub>1</sub>-S-
- R<sub>1</sub> ~~represents~~ is a linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkyl group, unsubstituted or substituted by at least one substituent, the alkyl chain being optionally interrupted by one or more heteroatoms ~~chosen from~~ including O, S and or N;
- R<sub>2</sub> ~~represents~~ is hydrogen, a linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkyl group or an aryl, heteroaryl or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>) alkylaryl group, unsubstituted or substituted by a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl;
- X ~~represents~~ is hydrogen, an M6G-N(R<sub>2</sub>)R<sub>1</sub>-S- residue or a polymer linked with the rest of ~~the entity~~ formula (A) by a spacer arm;
- the asymmetric carbons present in the formula (A) can have the R or S configuration, or  
as well as its pharmaceutically acceptable salts of formula (A).

2. (Currently Amended) Compound according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~  
~~-R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are as defined in claim 1;~~  
~~-wherein X represents is an M6G-N(R<sub>2</sub>)R<sub>1</sub>-S- residue, the two M6G-N(R<sub>2</sub>)R<sub>1</sub>-S-~~  
residues constituting the compounds of formula (A) in dimer form being identical or  
different.

3. (Currently Amended) Compound according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~  
~~-R<sub>1</sub> is as defined in claim 1;~~  
~~-wherein R<sub>2</sub> represents is hydrogen, and~~  
- X represents is hydrogen.

4. (Currently Amended) Compound according to claim 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that~~  
~~-R<sub>1</sub> is as defined in claim 1;~~  
- wherein R<sub>2</sub> represents is hydrogen, and  
- X represents is an M6G-N(R<sub>2</sub>)R<sub>1</sub>-S- residue in which R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are as defined  
above.

5. (Currently Amended) Compound according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1 to 4,  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein R<sub>1</sub> represents is an alkyl group substituted by one or more  
substituents including chosen from: a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkyl group; an amino group; a COOR<sub>3</sub>  
group; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> ketone; a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> aldehyde; or a CONR<sub>3</sub>R<sub>4</sub> group, wherein R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> in  
~~the COOR<sub>3</sub> or CONR<sub>3</sub>R<sub>4</sub> groups are each independently representing~~ hydrogen, an  
optionally substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkyl, an aryl, a heteroaryl or an alkylaryl group; a C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>  
ketone and a C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> aldehyde.

6. (Currently Amended) Compound according to claims 1 or 3, wherein  
~~characterized in that~~ R<sub>1</sub> represents is -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-, R<sub>2</sub> is hydrogen and X is hydrogen.

7. (Currently Amended) Compound according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1, or 2 or 4,  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein R<sub>1</sub> represents is -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-, R<sub>2</sub> is hydrogen and X is an M6G-  
N(R<sub>2</sub>)R<sub>1</sub>-S- residue in which R<sub>1</sub> = -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>- and R<sub>2</sub> is hydrogen.

8. (Currently Amended) Compound according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1, ~~or 2 or 4,~~ characterized in that

- wherein  $R_1$  represents is a  $-\text{CH}(\text{COOR}_3)\text{CH}_2-$  group in which  $R_3$  represents is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl or butyl,
- $R_2$  represents is hydrogen,
- $X$  represents is hydrogen or an  $\text{M6G-N}(R_2)\text{R}_1\text{-S-}$  residue in which  $R_1 = -\text{CH}(\text{COOR}_3)\text{CH}_2-$  in which  $R_3$  is as defined above and  $R_2$  is hydrogen.

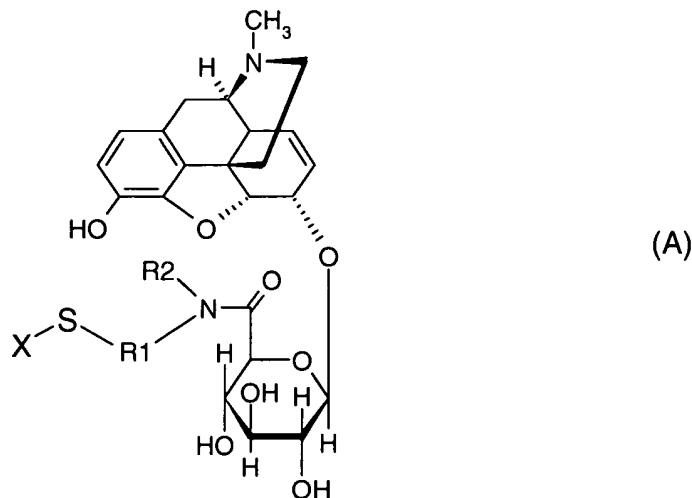
9. (Currently Amended) Compound according to ~~one of~~ claims 1 or 5, characterized in that wherein

- $R_1$  represents is a  $-\text{CH}(\text{CONR}_3\text{R}_4)\text{CH}_2-$  group in which  $R_3$  and  $R_4$  represent are hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl or butyl,
- $R_2$  represents is hydrogen,
- $X$  represents is hydrogen or an  $\text{M6G-N}(R_2)\text{R}_1\text{-S-}$  residue in which  $R_1 = -\text{CH}(\text{CONR}_3\text{R}_4)\text{CH}_2-$  in which  $R_3$  and  $R_4$  are as defined above and  $R_2$  is hydrogen.

10. (Currently Amended) Compound according to claims 1 or 5, characterized in that

- wherein  $R_1$  represents is a  $-\text{CH}(\text{COOR}_3)\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_2-$  group in which  $R_3$  represents is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl or butyl,
- $R_2$  represents is hydrogen
- $X$  represents is hydrogen or an  $\text{M6G-N}(R_2)\text{R}_1\text{-S-}$  residue in which  $R_1 = -\text{CH}(\text{COOR}_3)\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_2-$  in which  $R_3$  is as defined above and  $R_2$  is hydrogen.

11. (Currently Amended) Compound according to claims 1 or 5, characterized in that of formula (A):



in which:

- all of formula (A), with the exception of the substituent X, is called M6G-N(R<sub>2</sub>)R<sub>1</sub>-S-
- wherein R<sub>1</sub> represents is a -CH(COOR<sub>3</sub>)-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-C(O)NHCH(R<sub>5</sub>)-CH<sub>2</sub>- group, in which R<sub>3</sub> represents is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl or butyl and R<sub>5</sub> represents is -C(O)-NH-CH<sub>2</sub>-COOR<sub>3</sub>,
- R<sub>2</sub> represents is hydrogen
- X represents is hydrogen or an M6G-N(R<sub>2</sub>)R<sub>1</sub>-S- residue in which R<sub>1</sub> = -CH(COOR<sub>3</sub>)-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-C(O)NHCH(R<sub>5</sub>)-CH<sub>2</sub>- in which R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as defined above and R<sub>2</sub> represents is hydrogen.

12. (Currently Amended) Compound according to claim 1, characterized in that

- wherein R<sub>1</sub> represents is a -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>- group,
- R<sub>2</sub> represents is hydrogen
- X represents is a polymer linked to the rest of the entity by a spacer arm of formula -S-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-NH-C(O)- in which n = 0 to 4 and said polymer is a polyethylene glycol of molecular weight (Mw) greater than or equal to 10000.

13. (Currently Amended) Method for the preparation of a compound of formula (A) according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1 to 12, characterized in that it comprises the

~~stages consisting of comprising~~ reacting morphine-6-glucuronide with a compound of formula (III)  $\text{NHR}_2\text{-R}_1\text{-S-S-R}_1\text{-NHR}_2$ , in which  $\text{R}_1$  and  $\text{R}_2$  are as defined above in any one of claims 1 to 11, in the presence of a coupling agent, and reducing the disulphide bridge using a reducing agent if necessary.

14. (Currently Amended) Method for the preparation of a compound of formula (A) according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1 to 11, in which  $\text{X} = \text{H}$ , ~~characterized in that it comprises the stages consisting of comprising~~ reacting morphine-6-glucuronide with a compound of formula (IV)  $\text{NHR}_2\text{-R}_1\text{-SH}$ , in which  $\text{R}_1$  and  $\text{R}_2$  are as defined above in any one of claims 1 to 12, in the presence of a coupling agent and reducing *in situ* the oxidation by-products using a reducing agent.

15. (Currently Amended) Method ~~according to one of~~ claims 13 or 14, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the coupling agent includes ~~is chosen from~~ benzotriazol-1-yl-oxy-tris-pyrrolidino-phosphonium hexafluorophosphate (PyBOP), dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC), DCC combined with hydroxybenzotriazole (DCC/HOBT) ~~and or~~ diisopropylcarbodiimide combined with HOBT (DIPCDI/HOBT).

16. (Currently Amended) Method ~~according to one of~~ claims 13 or 14, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the reducing agent ~~is chosen from~~ includes tris(2-carboxyethyl)phosphine, triphenylphosphine, tris(hydroxymethyl)-phosphine ~~and or~~ dithiothreitol.

17. (Currently Amended) Pharmaceutical composition, ~~characterized in that it contains~~ including a compound of formula (A) according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1 to 12 and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

18. (Currently Amended) Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 17, ~~characterized in that it is~~ which is in a form which that can be administered by parenteral route.

19. (Currently Amended) Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 17, ~~characterized in that it is which is in the a~~ form of a preparation ~~which that~~ can be injected by sub-cutaneous, intravenous or intramuscular route.

20. (Currently Amended) Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 19, ~~characterized in that it is which is in a form which that~~ can be administered by oral route.

21. (Currently Amended) Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 20, ~~characterized in that it has which has~~ a sustained or controlled activity.

22. (Currently Amended) A method for treating pain comprising administering Use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to a human to 12 or a pharmaceutical composition according to any one of claims 17 to 21, for the production of a medicament intended for the treatment of pain.

23. (New) A method for treating pain comprising administering a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 17 to a human.